

Soundoff! Bio
February 11, 2003
Word count: 491



The United States
Army Field Band

The Musical Ambassadors of the Army
Washington, DC

SOUNDOFF!

The U.S. Army Field Band Barbershop Quartet

Soundoff! is the official barbershop quartet of The United States Army Field Band. With repertoire ranging from traditional barbershop harmonies to *a cappella* pop tunes, Soundoff! is sure to delight and entertain. The members of Soundoff! have traveled throughout the United States and abroad, performing for audiences of all ages. Whether singing on a concert hall stage, in a professional sports stadium, or at a hospital bedside, Soundoff! recreates the sounds of bygone eras.

Sergeant Major Robert Barnett, tenor, hails from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Applied Voice from the University of South Dakota. Prior to joining the Soldiers' Chorus in 1977, SGM Barnett served two years in the Navy as a member of The United States Armed Forces Bicentennial Band and Chorus. In more than a quarter century of traveling with military choruses, he has performed at least eight times in all fifty states and has been a frequent soloist with the Soldiers' Chorus and Concert Band. He is a founding member of the barbershop quartet Soundoff! and the Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge of the Soldiers' Chorus.

Master Sergeant William Gabbard, tenor, calls Pago Pago, American Samoa, home. He graduated *cum laude* from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia, where he was a double major in Vocal Performance and American History. He received his Master of Music in Vocal Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Iowa. He has been a voice student of John Van Cura since 1981. Prior to joining the Army in 1987, MSG Gabbard served on the voice faculty of the University of Nebraska-Omaha. While there, he performed as an oratorio soloist throughout the Midwest and South, and sang roles in regional opera productions. MSG Gabbard currently serves as vocal clinician for the Soldiers' Chorus, Concert Band Narrator, Drum Major, and Unit Historian/Archivist. MSG Gabbard is a founding member of the Vocal Arts Ensemble.

Master Sergeant Carl Stephen Albritton, bass baritone, grew up in Amarillo, Texas. He obtained his Bachelor of Music Education from Angelo State University, where he studied with Eldon Black. He taught in the Amarillo public school system while continuing his studies in vocal pedagogy at West Texas State University. Since joining The United States Army Field Band in 1983, MSG Albritton has soloed extensively and is currently the Bass Section Leader. In addition to his work in VocalEase, he is a founding member of the Soldiers' Chorus barbershop quartet, Soundoff!

Master Sergeant Jeffrey Woods, bass, is a native of Midland, Texas, and holds a Bachelor of Music Education from Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas. Prior to joining the Soldiers' Chorus of The United States Army Field Band in 1988, MSG Woods taught vocal music in public schools in Texas. His duties with the Soldiers' Chorus include singing with the Vocal Arts Ensemble and the barbershop quartet, Soundoff! He also serves as Narrator for the Soldiers' Chorus and Stage Manager for the Concert Band and Soldiers' Chorus.